

206339US0

10
2/4/03
2/4/03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :

VITALIY A. LIVSHITS ET AL : EXAMINER: KERR

SERIAL NO. : 09/841,609 :

FILED: APRIL 15, 2001 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652

FOR: AMINO ACID PRODUCING STRAINS BELONGING TO THE GENUS
ESCHERICHIA AND METHOD FOR PRODUCING AMINO ACID

RECEIVED

JAN 15 2003

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

SIR:

In response to the Official Action of September 23, 2002, Applicants elect, with
traverse, Group II.

REMARKS

The Office has restricted this application as follows under 35 U.S.C. §121:

Group I: Claims 1-3, drawn to *Escherichia* bacterium harboring sucrose PTS genes;

Group II: Claims 4-7, drawn to *Escherichia* bacterium harboring sucrose non- PTS
genes; and

Group III: Claim 8, drawn to methods of producing amino acids.

Applicants have elected, with traverse, Group II for further prosecution.